

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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May 20, 2008

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE B. BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: TRANSIT PASS SUBSIDY PROGRAM (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action is to approve funding to continue the Transit Pass Subsidy Program, which provides subsidized monthly transit fares to eligible residents in unincorporated County areas, through Fiscal Year 2008-09.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Approve the continuation of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program to provide subsidized monthly transit fares for eligible County of Los Angeles unincorporated area residents as part of the County of Los Angeles' Proposition A Local Return Transit Program for Fiscal Year 2008-09, at an estimated cost of \$1,554,100.
- 2. Authorize the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to continue the Transit Pass Subsidy Program through Fiscal Year 2008-09.

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PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This action will provide for the continuation of subsidized transit passes by authorizing the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee to execute an agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we provide Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Fiscal Responsibility (Goal 4). The Transit Pass Subsidy Program (Program) will reduce monthly transit pass costs for eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, students, and the general public, thereby improving access to Metro and other municipal transit systems. By administering this Program with Metro, the County of Los Angeles (County) is able to provide these services to the public in a cost-effective manner.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The anticipated cost of the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Transit Pass Subsidy Program for each Supervisorial District is as follows:

<u>District</u>	Subsidy/Certifications	Metro <u>Administration</u>	Totals <u>FY 2008-09</u>
1	\$ 731,200	\$ 67,700	\$ 798,900
2	189,500	97,600*	287,100
3	5,000	500	5,500
4	100,600	9,300	109,900
5	322,800	29,900	352,700
Total	\$1,349,100	\$205,000	\$1,554,100

^{*}This amount includes \$80,000 in operating and administration costs for the Baldwin Hills Customer Service Center.

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The maximum obligation to Metro for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Program is \$1,554,100. The necessary funds are available in each Supervisorial District's Proposition A Local Return Transit Program, which are included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2008-09 Transit Enterprise Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This Program encourages the use of public transit and provides eligible residents in unincorporated County areas the financial assistance to meet their transit needs.

Since 1985, your Board has approved agreements with Metro, or its predecessor agencies, for this Program. The Program provides subsidized monthly transit fares to eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, and students residing in all unincorporated County areas. The Program also provides subsidized Metro and EZ transit passes for the general public residing in the unincorporated County areas of the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

This Program permits the sales of monthly Metro and EZ transit passes as follows:

Metro Pass Category	Regular Cost	County <u>Subsidy</u>	Cost to Eligible County Residents
Senior and Disabled	\$14.00	\$ 6.00	
Student (K-12)	\$24.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00
College/Vocational	\$36.00	\$11.00	\$16.00
Regular Monthly*	\$62.00	\$14.00	\$25.00
EZ Pass Category			\$48.00
Senior and Disabled	\$35.00	\$14.00	
Regular Monthly*	\$70.00	\$14.00	\$21.00
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^{*}The County subsidies for the Regular Monthly Metro and EZ Passes are only available to eligible residents in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5.

The Program also calls for Metro to review applicants' addresses to certify that they are eligible to participate in this Program and to document which Supervisorial District the applicant resides. Student and Regular Monthly Pass certifications, which must be renewed annually, include a 12-month punch card to ensure that only one pass per person per month is purchased. The County will pay Metro \$0.65 for each student monthly pass sold to cover Metro's processing cost of the punch card. Disabled certifications must be renewed from every three months to three years depending upon the disability, and senior certifications must be renewed every five years.

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Metro charges the following for certification processing fees:

Pass Category	Certification Fee	
Student Senior and Disabled Regular Monthly	\$4.05 \$2.75 \$4.05	

The agreement will permit Metro to provide subsidized monthly transit fares for eligible unincorporated County area residents and administer the Program at a maximum cost to the County of \$1,554,100. The agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Acting Director of Public Works or his designee. The County's payment to Metro will be based on the actual cost incurred by Metro.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On May 9, 2000, Synopsis No. 73, your Board found this Program to be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This action will provide reduced monthly transit pass rates, encourage transit use, and provide improved access to Metro and other municipal transit systems.

CONCLUSION

Please return two adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Programs Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA Chief Executive Officer

WTF:DDE SA:yr

c: County Counsel

Department of Public Works (Administration Services)